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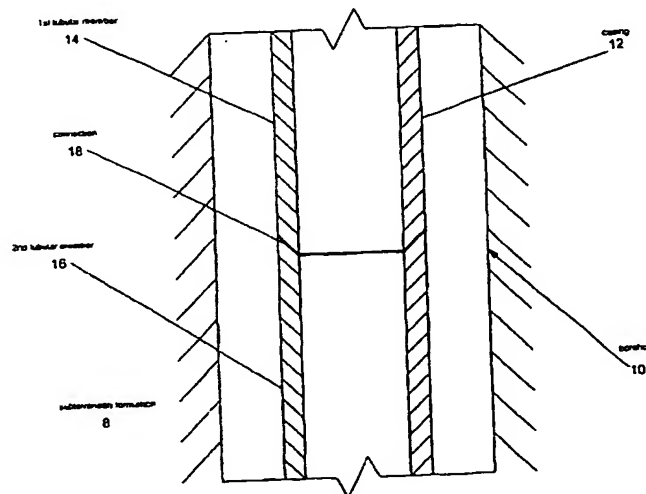
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(54) Title: **A METHOD OF RADIALLY EXPANDING AND PLASTICALLY DEFORMING TUBULAR MEMBERS**



(57) Abstract: A method of radially expanding and plastically deforming a tubular assembly comprising a first tubular member, a second tubular member, and a mechanical coupling for coupling the first tubular member to the second tubular member, the method comprising placing the mechanical coupling in tension; and then radially expanding and plastically deforming the mechanical coupling. It is emphasized that this abstract is provided to comply with the rules requiring an abstract to allow a searcher or other reader to quickly ascertain the subject matter of the technical disclosure; and is submitted with the understanding that it will not be used to limit the scope or meaning of the claims under 37 CFR 1.72.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/28423

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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US CL : 166/277,382,207,208

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
U.S. : 166/277,382,207,208,297,55,55.1,206,212,216,214,242.1,242.2

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X — Y	US 6,607,220 B2 (Sivley, IV) 19 August 2003 (19.08.2003), Figures.	1,4,6,13,17,18,20,21,25 28,30,33- 38,41,44,45,53,57,58,6 0,61,65-70,73,76,77
		2,3,5,7-12,14-16,19,22- 24,26,27,29,31,32,39,4 0,42,43,45,47-52,54- 56,59,62- 64,71,72,74,75
Y	US 6,543,552 B1 (Metcalf et al.) 08 April 2003 (08.04.2001), Figures.	2,3,5,7-12,14-16,19,22- 24,26,27,29,31,32,39,4 0,42,43,45,47-52,54- 56,59,62- 64,71,72,74,75

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C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A,P	US 2004/0231839 A1 (Ellington et al.) 25 November 2004 (25.11.2004), Figures.	1-77
A,P	US 2004/0060706 A1 (Stephenson) 01 April 2004 (01.04.2004), Figures.	1-77
A	US 2003/0075338 A1 (Sively, IV) 24 April 2003 (24.04.2003), Figures.	1-77
A	US 6,419,025 B1 (Lohbeck et al.) 16 July 2002 (16.07.2002), Figures.	1-77
A,P	US 2004/0221996 A1 (Burge) 11 November 2004 (11.11.2004), Figures.	1-77
A	US 2003/0042022 A1 (Lauritzen et al.) 06 March 2003 (06.03.2003), Figures.	1-77
A	US 6,527,049 B2 (Metcalf et al.) 04 March 2003 (04.03.2003), Figures.	1-77
A,P	US 6,722,443 B1 (Metcalf) 20 April 2004 (20.04.2004), Figures.	1-77